

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Original): An alignment apparatus for aligning the central position and an orientation mark of a generally plate-like work with a predetermined position, comprising:

a table, which is provided rotatably in a plane and equipped with a loading plane having suction holes for said work, a shift mechanism for shifting the table, and a sensor, which is disposed adjacent to the outer edge portion of said work, for detecting the position of the outer edge and outputting detected positional data for shifting said table to a predetermined position, wherein

said loading plane is formed into a size so as to be positioned inside the periphery of said work; a receiving member is provided outside said table and is positioned on the generally same plane as said loading plane; and the periphery of the receiving member has a plane configuration so as to come to a position further outside the periphery of the work.

2. (Original): The alignment apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said sensor includes a light receiving element and a light emitting element disposed so as to optically sandwich the periphery portion of the work, and

said receiving member is formed using material having translucency.

Amendment

Application No. 10/689,525

Attorney Docket No. 032036

3. (Currently Amended): The alignment apparatus according to claim 2, wherein ~~said light emitting element is formed out of~~ said receiving member is formed as a glass-like scatterer so as to reflect and project ~~[[the]] light from the light emitting element, [[by]]~~ allowing ~~[[the]]~~ light to enter the receiving member laterally.

4. (Original): The alignment apparatus according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein said receiving member is detachably attached around the periphery of the table.

5. (Original): An alignment apparatus for aligning the central position and an orientation mark of a generally plate-like work with a predetermined position, comprising:

a table, which is provided rotatably in a plane and equipped with a loading plane having suction holes for said work, a shift mechanism for shifting the table, and a sensor, which is disposed adjacent to the outer edge portion of said work, for detecting the position of the outer edge and outputting detected positional data for shifting said table to a predetermined position, wherein

said table is formed out of material having translucency, and is formed into a size so that the periphery edge thereof comes to a position further outside the periphery of said work.

6. (Previously Presented): The alignment apparatus according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein said work comprises an ultrathin semiconductor wafer.